

I CLAIM:

1. An apparatus for producing a sterile environment for a surgical table and support stand, said table including a surgical tray, the apparatus comprising:

a) a flexible cover having a flat central surface area with size and shape adapted to be positioned to substantially cover the top surface of a surgical tray, said cover having a perimeter edge, said central surface area of said cover having an upper and lower surface;

b) a flexible side skirt attached to the central surface area of said flexible cover so as to form a continuous skirt around the perimeter edge of said central surface area, said side skirt having an outer perimeter edge;

c) a securement means for securing the outer perimeter edge of said side skirt underneath the tray, whereby said side skirt area and said flat surface area are held in position on the tray; and

d) the lower surface of said central surface area of said cover includes a coating of a non-slip material to prevent the central surface area from moving with respect to the tray when positioned.

2. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the central surface area and side skirt area are formed from plastic film and said side skirt member is permanently attached to said central surface area.

3. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the securement means comprises a length adjustable band attached to the lower perimeter edge of said side skirt.

4. The apparatus of claim 3, wherein the length adjustable band is an endless elastic strip.

5. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the cover material is cut resistant and impervious to liquid.

6. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the upper surface of said central surface area is coated with a non-slip material.

7. The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a reinforcing material is attached to the upper central surface area.

8. The cover of claim 1, wherein said side skirt member is formed from plastic film and is a substantially elongated rectangular strip having opposite ends, and includes a side skirt seam which connects the two opposite ends of the side skirt member.

9. The cover of claim 8, wherein said side skirt seam is formed by heat sealing.

10. A sterile reinforcement cover for a surgical tray which is sheathed in a first sterile cover comprising:

a) a flexible sterile sheet member with size and shape adapted to be positioned to substantially cover the surface of the surgical tray, said flexible sheet member having an upper and lower surface and a perimeter edge;

b) a securing means for securing the perimeter edge of said sheet member underneath the tray whereby said sheet member and said first sterile cover are held in position on the tray; and

c) the upper surface of said sheet member is provided with a reinforcing material to prevent said covers from being

cut or penetrated which would compromise the sterility of objects supported on said tray.

11. The cover of claim 10, wherein said sheet member is formed from plastic film.

12. The cover of claim 10, wherein said securement means includes an elastic band or drawstring attached to the perimeter edge of said sheet member.

13. The cover of claim 10, wherein the securement means includes hook and fabric strips.

14. The cover of claim 10, wherein the upper surface of said sheet member is coated with a non-slip material.

15. The cover of claim 10, wherein the entire reinforcement cover device is sterilized and packaged in a sterile container.

16. A reinforcement apparatus for providing a sterile environment for a surgical tray having an upper and lower surface and an outer peripheral edge, the apparatus comprising:

a) a first cover formed from flexible sheet material in an elongated tubular configuration having a closed end and an opposite open end; the open end of said first cover being installed over said tray by passing said first cover over the tray until the closed end of the cover is in contact with said tray, said first cover when in position having a support area which corresponds with the upper surface of said surgical tray;

b) a second cover formed from a flexible material and having a configuration corresponding to said support area of said first cover and an outer peripheral edge, said second cover includes

securement means which holds the second cover over the first cover and said surgical tray so that both covers are securely held in position on said tray and any excess material of said first cover is gathered and held in close proximity to the lower surface of said surgical tray to prevent the covers and tray from being unintentionally caught and the tray displaced.

17. A reinforcement apparatus as defined in claim 16 wherein the securment means of said second cover includes an outwardly extended skirt portion which is attached to the outer peripheral edge of said second cover, said skirt portion has an outer second edge which includes a tensioning means attached to the second edge so as to hold the second and first covers securely in position over said surgical tray.

18. A reinforcement apparatus as defined in claim 17 wherein said securment means includes an elastic strip formed within a hem formed around the second edge of said skirt portion of said second cover.

19. A reinforcement apparatus as defined in claim 16 wherein the securement means of said second cover includes a tensioning means provided in conjunction with the outer peripheral edge of said second cover.

20. A reinforcement apparatus as defined in claim 16 wherein the configuration of said second cover is sufficiently large so as to allow the second cover to at least partially overlap the outer peripheral edge of said surgical tray.

21. A reinforcement apparatus as defined in claim 20 wherein the second cover includes a reinforcement layer in the area

corresponding to the upper surface of said surgical tray which prevents the covers from being cut or punctured which would compromise the sterile environment of the tray.

22. A reinforcement apparatus as defined in claim 21 wherein the reinforcement layer attached to the second cover is sufficiently large to overlap the outer peripheral edge of said surgical tray.

23. A reinforcement apparatus as defined in claim 22 wherein an outer surface of said reinforcement layer includes a non-skid coating which reduces accidental movement of instruments or equipment positioned on said such surgical tray.

24. A reinforcement apparatus as defined in claim 16 wherein said first and second covers are sterilized by a suitable process to provide a sterile environment for said surgical tray.

25. A reinforcement apparatus as defined in claim 16 wherein said second cover and the support area of said first cover are permanently joined together to form the reinforcement apparatus as an integrated one-piece unit.

26. A reinforcement apparatus for providing a sterile environment for a surgical tray having an upper and lower surface area and an outer peripheral edge, said apparatus comprising:

a) a first cover formed from flexible sheet material in an elongated tubular configuration having a closed end and an opposite open end, said first cover being installed over said tray by passing the open end of said first cover over the tray until the closed end is in contact with said tray, said first cover when in position having

a support area which corresponds to the upper surface of said surgical tray;

b) a second cover formed from a flexible material and having a configuration corresponding to said support area of said first cover and an outer peripheral edge, said second cover including a securement means which holds the second cover over the first cover and said surgical tray so that both covers are securely held in position on said tray and any excess materials of said first cover is gathered and held in close proximity to the lower surface of said surgical tray; and

c) said first cover and said second cover are at least partially attached in the support area of said first cover whereby the first and second covers form an integral one-piece unit which can be installed over said surgical tray in a combined single installation.

27. A method of providing a sterile environment for a surgical tray which includes the steps of;

a) installing a first sterile cover formed from a flexible sheet material in an elongated tubular configuration having a closed end and an opposite open end;

b) moving said open end of the first cover over said tray until said closed end of said first cover is in contact with an edge of said tray;

c) positioning a second cover over said first cover and corresponding to the surface of said surgical tray; and

d) pulling the edges of said second cover down and under the surgical tray and tensioning the edges of said second cover so as to tightly gather any excess material of said covers so as to hold the edges of the covers firmly against the under surface of said surgical tray so that the covers and tray can not be unintentionally caught which could displace said tray.

28. A method of providing a sterile environment for a surgical tray as defined in claim 27 which further includes the step of permanently adhering the first and second covers in the area corresponding to the surface of said surgical tray so that they form a single integrated one-piece unit.